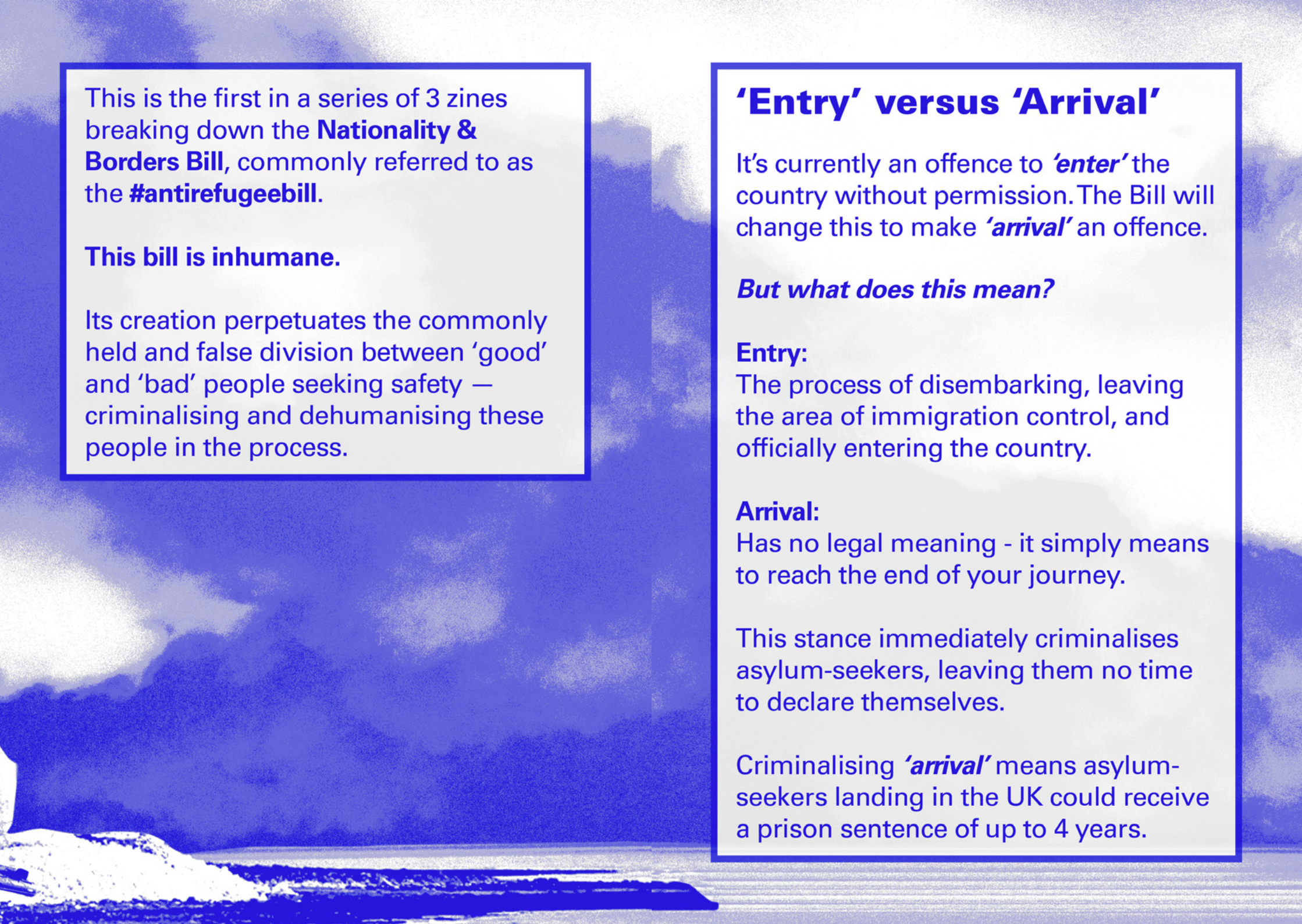


*Understanding the Nationality & Borders Bill pt1*







This is the first in a series of 3 zines breaking down the **Nationality & Borders Bill**, commonly referred to as the **#antirefugeebill**.

**This bill is inhumane.**

Its creation perpetuates the commonly held and false division between 'good' and 'bad' people seeking safety — criminalising and dehumanising these people in the process.

## **'Entry' versus 'Arrival'**

It's currently an offence to **'enter'** the country without permission. The Bill will change this to make **'arrival'** an offence.

***But what does this mean?***

### **Entry:**

The process of disembarking, leaving the area of immigration control, and officially entering the country.

### **Arrival:**

Has no legal meaning - it simply means to reach the end of your journey.

This stance immediately criminalises asylum-seekers, leaving them no time to declare themselves.

Criminalising **'arrival'** means asylum-seekers landing in the UK could receive a prison sentence of up to 4 years.



## Criminalising Assistance

Currently the maximum sentence is 14 years if you aid an asylum-seeker's arrival into the country for financial gain.

*The Bill changes this in two ways:*

- The sentence is increased to a **maximum of life**
- Financial gain is no longer a condition for sentencing

This doesn't apply to groups who have a stated aim to '**assist**' asylum-seekers, however 'assist' is a vague term.

Additionally it will put people who rescue those crossing the channel, i.e. the RNLI in a legally precarious position.

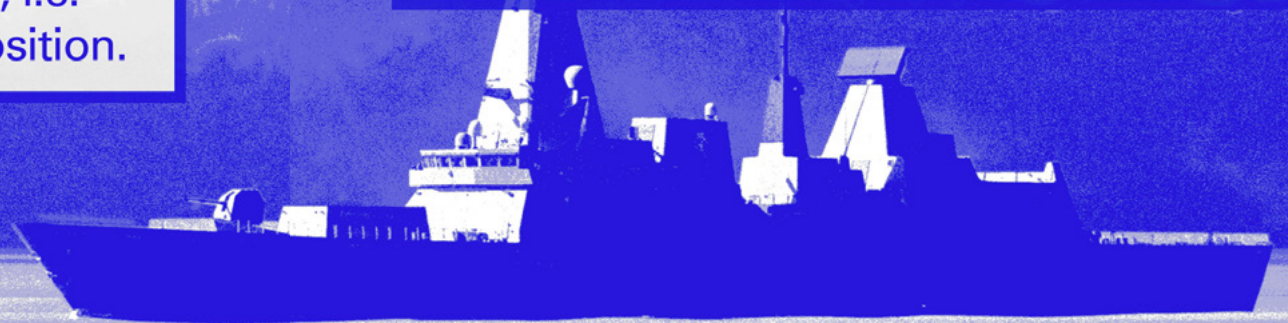
## The Impact

The changes proposed by this bill will criminalise both people seeking asylum and those that help them.

In turn, people will be forced into **more precarious and perilous situations** — increasing the population of people living undocumented, without access to state support.

When making a journey, most asylum-seekers will not know that it is illegal to 'arrive' in the UK.

When arriving, they would be considered inadmissible and **legally penalised for seeking safety**.





## The government's answer:

The government is asking asylum-seekers to use '*safe, legal routes*'.

## What does this mean?

The UN's 1951 Refugee Convention lays out people's right to seek safety; **this is not required to be via a certain 'route'**.

The government currently has **only 3 resettlement schemes**, which each have specific criteria. Therefore, for many asylum-seekers these schemes are not an option - and for those who may apply to them, they are **hugely oversubscribed**.

The UNHCR says that, globally, **only 1%** of people recognised as refugees are able to be resettled.

Resettlement schemes also neglect to recognise that **people fleeing for their lives cannot often move in prescribed, uniform ways**. In reality, people are seeking safety through whichever means they can.







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MANCHESTER

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